

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising the steps of:  
receiving data from a web site located across a network;  
5 determining whether additional data from the web site is extractable;  
in response to determining that additional data from the web site is  
extractable, creating at least one synthetic hyperlink for extracting the data from  
the web site;  
combining the at least one synthetic hyperlink with the data received from  
10 the website to create combined data; and  
sending the combined data to a crawler.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating at least one synthetic  
hyperlink comprises the step of:  
15 augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value  
appropriate for a form used by the web site to create at least one synthetic  
hyperlink.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating at least one synthetic  
hyperlink comprises the step of:  
20 augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value  
determined by executing a script contained in the data from the web site to  
create at least one synthetic hyperlink.

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating at least one synthetic hyperlink comprises the step of:

augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value determined by a script filter analyzing a script contained in the data from the web site to create at least one synthetic hyperlink.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating at least one synthetic hyperlink comprises the step of:

augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value to create a synthetic hyperlink, the synthetic hyperlink indicating that it must be converted to a different method for extracting data from the web site.

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6. A method comprising the steps of:  
receiving a synthetic hyperlink request;  
converting the synthetic hyperlink request to a method indicated by the  
synthetic hyperlink request to create a converted hyperlink request; and  
5 sending the converted hyperlink request to a web site.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of converting the synthetic  
hyperlink request comprises the steps of:  
determining whether the synthetic hyperlink request indicates the use of a  
10 POST method; and  
in response to determining that the synthetic hyperlink request indicates  
the use of a POST method, converting the synthetic hyperlink from a GET  
method to a POST method.

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8. A system comprising:

at least one communication device for receiving data from a web site and sending data to a crawler; and

at least one computer processing device, communicatively coupled to the at least one communication device, for

analyzing data received from the web site to determine whether additional data is extractable from the web site by a hyperlink request,

creating at least one synthetic hyperlink for extracting data from the web site, and

combining the at least one synthetic hyperlink with data received from the web site in response to the hyperlink request.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein the at least one computer processing device comprises:

a transcoder for

determining at least one parameter value for a form required by the data from the web site;

augmenting the hyperlink request with at least one parameter value to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink; and

combining the at least one synthetic hyperlink with the data received from the web site in response to the hyperlink request.

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10. The system according to claim 8, wherein the at least one computer processing device comprises:

a transcoder, communicatively coupled to the at least one communication device, for

5                    augmenting the hyperlink request with at least one parameter value to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink for each of the at least one parameter value, and  
                     combining the at least one synthetic hyperlink with the data received from the web site; and

10                  a script engine, communicatively coupled to the transcoder, for determining the at least one parameter value by executing a script contained in the data from the web site.

11. The system according to claim 8, wherein the at least one computer processing device comprises:

15                  a transcoder, communicatively coupled to the at least one communication device, for

                     augmenting the hyperlink request with at least one parameter value to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink for  
20                  each of the at least one parameter value, and  
                     combining the at least one synthetic hyperlink with the data received from the web site; and

                     a script filter, communicatively coupled to the transcoder, for determining  
25                  the at least one parameter value by analyzing the script contained in the data from the web site.

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12. The system according to claim 8, wherein the at least one computer processing device comprises:

a transcoder for augmenting the hyperlink request with at least one parameter value to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink indicating that the at least one synthetic hyperlink must be converted to a different method for extracting data from the web site.

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13. A system for extending the performance of a crawler comprising:  
at least one communication device for receiving a synthetic hyperlink  
request and sending data to a web site across a network, in accordance with the  
synthetic hyperlink request; and

5 a method converter, communicatively coupled to the at least one  
communication device, for converting the synthetic hyperlink request to a method  
compatible with the web site.

10 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the method converter is for converting  
the synthetic hyperlink request from a GET method to a POST method.

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15. A computer readable medium including computer instructions for a computing system, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving data from a web site located across a network;

determining whether additional data from the web site is extractable;

5 in response to determining that additional data from the web site is extractable, creating at least one synthetic hyperlink for extracting the data from the web site;

combining the at least one synthetic hyperlink with the data received from the web site to create combined data; and

10 sending the combined data to a crawler.

16. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the computer instructions for creating at least one synthetic hyperlink comprise instructions for augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value for a form  
15 used by the web site to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the computer instructions for creating at least one synthetic hyperlink comprise instructions for augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value determined by  
20 executing a script contained in the data from the web site to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink.

18. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the computer instructions for creating at least one synthetic hyperlink comprise instructions for  
25 augmenting a hyperlink request with at least one parameter value determined by a script filter by analyzing a script contained in the data from the web site to create the at least one synthetic hyperlink.



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19. A computer readable medium including computer instruction for a computer system, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

- receiving a synthetic hyperlink request from a crawler;
- converting the synthetic hyperlink request to a method indicated by the
- 5 synthetic hyperlink request to create a converted hyperlink request; and
- sending the converted hyperlink request to a web site.

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20. A computer readable medium including computer instruction for a computer system, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

- receiving a synthetic hyperlink request for extracting data from a web site;
- converting the synthetic hyperlink request to a method indicated by the synthetic hyperlink request; and
- in response to determining that the synthetic hyperlink request indicates the use of a POST method, converting the synthetic hyperlink request from a GET method to a POST method.

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